

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-16 ISO-00 SS-20 AF-10 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14

RSC-01 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

PRS-01 USIA-15 L-03 H-03 /165 R

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R 081952Z JUN 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121816

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC GJ

SUBJECT: GRENADA APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. IN ANTICIPATION UN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FROM GRENADA, DEPT REVIEWED US POSITION ON ADMISSION IN CONTEXT BOTH OF UN MICROSTATE PROBLEM AND OF US HEMISPHERIC RELATIONS, PARTICULARLY WITH CARIBBEAN STATES. GRENADA MEETS ONLY ONE (POPULATION - AND THAT BARELY) OF OUR FOUR INFORMAL CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING WHETHER STATE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED MICRO-STATE. DEPT FULLY AWARE OF PREJUDICIAL IMPLICATIONS OF GRENADA'S ADMISSION FOR ANY FUTURE SOLUTION OF MICROSTATE PROBLEM. HOWEVER, ONLY US VETO WILL IN END PREVENT FAVORABLE SC ACTION ON GRENADA'S APPLICATION, GIVEN PREVAILING SENTIMENT IN BOTH SC AND GA IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSALITY

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2. US HAS NEVER USED VETO ON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND

ITS FIRST USE, OR EVEN THREAT OF USE IN ORDER DELAY IF POSSIBLE ANY SC ACTION ON GRENADA'S APPLICATION, CERTAIN BE RESENTED BY GRENADA AND ITS CARIBBEAN NEIGHBORS IN PARTICULAR. THIS RESENTMENT LIKELY TO PREJUDICE US RELATIONS NOT ONLY WITH GRENADA BUT WITH OTHER STATES IN AREA SUCH AS JAMAICA, GUYANA, AND TRINIDAD WHICH ALREADY TENDING TOWARD THIRD WORLD NON-ALIGNMENT. IT MIGHT ALSO PROVE OF ASSISTANCE TO CUBA IN EFFORTS MAKE TROUBLE WITH US OVER PUERTO RICO AND LEAD TO INCREASE IN CUBAN INFLUENCE IN CARIBBEAN COMMONWEALTH.

3. OUTSIDE IMMEDIATE AREA, US VETO LIKELY AFFECT UNFAVORABLY ATTITUDE TOWARD US OF OTHER LA STATES, AMONG WHOM SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF UNIVERSALITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN STRONG; WOULD BE EXPLOITED AGAINST US BY LDCS AS WELL AS THE COMMUNIST STATES; AND WOULD PUT US IN OPPOSITION TO THE UK. MOREOVER PRESENT COMPOSITION UN MAKES IT EXTREMELY DIFFICULT, IN ABSENCE ANY UN ALTERNATIVE TO FULL MEMBERSHIP, CONVINCINGLY TO DEFEND VETO IN ANY PARTICULAR CASE AGAINST CHARGES OF DISCRIMINATION.

4. IN LIGHT ABOVE CONSIDERATIONS, DEPT HAS CONCLUDED US SHOULD IN PRESENT SITUATION VOTE IN FAVOR GRENADA'S ADMISSION AND NOT ATTEMPT TO STEM TIDE BY VETO. ABSTENTION, WHILE MORE CONSISTENT WITH OUR CONCERN OVER MICROSTATE PROBLEM, WOULD EVOKE RESENTMENT WITHOUT HOWEVER PRACTICAL EFFECT UPON OUTCOME. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: smithrj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE121816
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: VFHARTLEY:MAK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740147-1139
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740662/aaaacazq.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: smithrj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 JUL 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <27 FEB 2003 by smithrj>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GRENADA APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
TAGS: PFOR, AORG, GJ, US, UNSC
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005